

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

Claim 1 (amended). An apparatus, comprising:

\_\_\_\_\_ a processing circuit;

\_\_\_\_\_ a memory storing program instructions operable to cause the processing circuit to  
determine an initial value of a security instrument having a value based on the  
prospective income of a performer, the value based at least in part on a contingent portion  
of the prospective income, the prospective income being service based, the initial value  
based on a value of predetermined performance incentives available to the performer and  
which define the contingent portion of the prospective income, and a likelihood of the  
performer attaining the performance incentives; and  
\_\_\_\_\_ an input configured to receive information representative of the value of  
performance incentives available to the performer.

Claim 2 (amended). The apparatus ~~The security instrument~~ of claim 1 wherein the prospective income is derived from income obtained through participation in professional sports.

Claim 3 (amended). The apparatus ~~The security instrument~~ of claim 1 wherein at least some of the contingent portion of the prospective income is based on the performer's performance in a professional sport.

Claim 4 (amended). The apparatus ~~The security instrument~~ of claim 2 wherein:  
the performer is a participant in professional team sports; and  
at least some of the contingent portion of the prospective income is team performance based.

Claim 5 (amended). The apparatus ~~The security instrument~~ of claim 1 further comprising an initial value, wherein the initial value is based in part by past performance of the performer.

Claim 6 (amended). The apparatus ~~The security instrument~~ of claim 5 wherein the value is further based at least in part on a base portion of the prospective income.

Claim 7 (canceled).

Claim 8 (amended). A method comprising:

employing a first processing circuit to determine an initial value of a security instrument, the initial value of the ~~underwriting a security instrument~~ having a value based on the prospective income of a performer, the value based at least in part on a

contingent portion of the prospective income, the prospective income being service based; and

offering the security for sale;

wherein the performer is selected from one of a group consisting of a professional athlete, an actor, a musician and an author.

Claim 9 (amended). The method of claim 8 wherein offering the security for sale further comprises employing a first computer for receiving bids from a plurality of remote computers, the first computer connected to the remote computers via a network.

Claim 10 (amended). The method of claim 8 wherein offering the security for sale further comprises connecting the first computer to the remote computers via the Internet.

Claim 11 (original). The method of claim 8 wherein the prospective income is derived from income obtained through participation in professional sports.

Claim 12 (original). The method of claim 8 wherein at least some of the contingent portion of the prospective income is based on the performer's performance in a professional sport.

Claim 13 (original). The method of claim 12 wherein:

the performer is a participant in professional team sports; and  
at least some of the contingent portion of the prospective income is team  
performance based.

Claim 14 (amended). The method of claim 8 further comprising an initial value, wherein  
the initial value is based in part by past performance of the performer in the performance  
of substantially similar types of services as those on which the prospective income is  
based.

Claim 15 (original). The method of claim 8 wherein the value is further based at least in  
part on a base portion of the prospective income.

Claim 16 (original). The method of claim 8 further comprising a step of providing to the  
first processing circuit for the purposes of determining the initial value: an initial value;  
~~the initial value based upon:~~

a value of performance incentives available to the performer; and  
a likelihood of the performer attaining the performance incentives.

Claim 17 (amended). A system comprising:

a first processing circuit configured to receive and store~~processor for receiving and storing~~ a plurality of bids for the purchase of one or more security instruments, each security instrument having a value based on the prospective income of a performer, the value based at least in part on a contingent portion of the prospective income, the prospective income being service based; and

a plurality of remote processing circuits~~processors~~ operable to communicate the plurality of bids to the first processing circuit~~processor~~.

Claim 18 (original). The system of claim 17 wherein the prospective income is derived from income obtained through participation in professional sports.

Claim 19 (amended). The system of claim 17 wherein at least some of the contingent portion of the prospective income is based on the performer's performance in a professional sport, contingent portion being based on specified incentives.

Claim 20 (original). The system of claim 19 wherein:

the performer is a participant in professional team sports; and

at least some of the contingent portion of the prospective income is team performance based.

Claim 21 (amended). The system of claim 17 wherein each security instrument further comprises an initial value, wherein the initial value is based in part by past performance of the performer in the performance of substantially similar types of services as those on which the prospective income is based.

Claim 22 (amended). The system of claim 17 wherein the value is further based at least in part on a base portion of the prospective income, said base portion differing from the contingent portion.

Claim 23 (original). The system of claim 17 wherein each security instrument further comprises an initial value, the initial value based upon:

- a value of performance incentives available to the performer; and
- a likelihood of the performer attaining the performance incentives.